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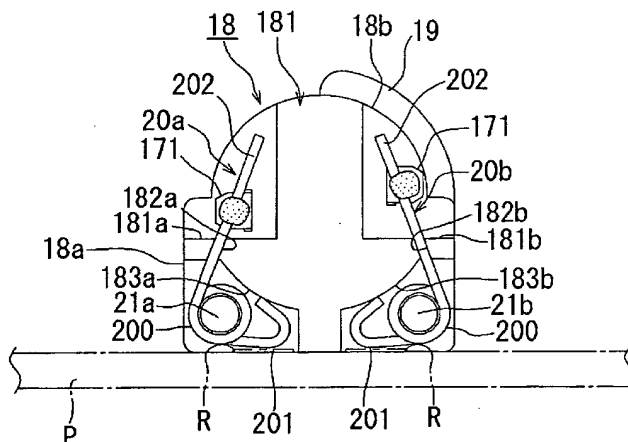
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(54) **SMALL-SIZED MOTOR, SMALL-SIZED VIBRATION MOTOR, AND PORTABLE INFORMATION DEVICE**

(57) The present invention is constituted such that a motor is small in size and can be mounted simply, with a sure electrical connection by means of power terminals. There is provided a terminal seat made of insulating resin fitted and fixed to one end of a motor housing, a pair of support pins are held by the terminal seat so as to project in a direction approximately parallel to a

surface of a circuit board, respective leads of a motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from the terminal seat, and there are provided a pair of torsion coil springs as the power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of support pins, ends projecting outward from the terminal seat as points of contact with power supply lands, and opposite ends connected to leads.

FIG. 20



Description

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0001] This invention relates to improvement of a small-sized motor and a small-sized vibrating motor in regard to electrical terminals that connect electrically with power supply lands on a circuit board, and improvement of a portable information equipment in which a small-sized vibrating motor is mounted.

BACKGROUND ART

[0002] It has previously been proposed (Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 11-136901) that the method of electrically connecting the power supply lands on the circuit board of a small-sized motor using leads that extend from the motor housing side be replaced by the method of attaching to the exterior of the motor housing leaf-spring power terminals that apply pressure to the power supply lands of the circuit board.

[0003] That small-sized motor has, as shown in figure 26, a motor housing 1, a brush holder 2 that is fitted and fixed in the open end of the motor housing 1, a bracket 3 that is mutually fixed with the brush holder 2, and a power terminal 4 that consists of a leaf spring bent at an obtuse angle (as shown in the drawing). One end 4a of the power terminal 4 is sandwiched between the brush holder 2 and the bracket 3 where the brush holder 2 is fitted and fixed in the open end of the motor housing 1, and the other end is configured of a free portion 4b that extends down at an angle from the bracket 3 so as to contact and apply pressure to the power supply land on the circuit board.

[0004] The power terminal made of leaf spring will not have the necessary characteristics for practical use if the free portion that is pressed against the power supply land on the circuit board is not long enough relative to the width. Therefore, as shown in figure 27, the long part of the free portion 4b that is pressed in contact with the power supply land R of the circuit board P must be mounted so that the motor itself floats above the surface of the circuit board P; it is therefore to maintain a considerable allowance in the mounting height of the power terminal 4. This puts constraints on the ability to reduce the mounting height, and prevents efforts to miniaturize the motor itself and the equipment in which it is mounted.

[0005] Additionally, using a power terminal made of leaf spring, there is the risk that when it applies pressure on the board, torsion will cause the two power terminals to bend toward each other. Moreover, the pressure applied on the power supply land on the circuit board depends on the springiness of the leaf spring. Therefore, unless the motor is mounted at the proper height to accurately maintain pressure between the free portion of the leaf spring and the power supply land of the circuit board, there is the danger that poor contact will occur in connection with vibration of the small-sized vibrating

motor or the like.

[0006] In order to supplement the pressure contact between the power supply land of the circuit board and the leaf spring, it has been proposed (Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 2000-78790) that a flexible pressure body, to hold back the tip of the free portion, be installed between the motor housing and the free portion of the leaf spring. However, even with this proposal there is a height restraint equal to the thickness of the flexible body, and so efforts to miniaturize the motor itself and the equipment in which it is mounted are prevented.

[0007] The present invention has an object of providing a small-sized motor and a small-sized vibrating motor in which the motor itself is small in size and can be mounted simply, with a sure electrical connection by means of power terminals.

[0008] The present invention has another object of providing a smaller equipment in which the small-sized vibrating motor is mounted, and thus providing portable information equipment of high reliability in which the motor is electrically connected by power terminals.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

[0009] The small-sized motor of the present invention is constituted such that it has a pair of power terminals external to a motor housing, the power terminals being electrically connected to leads from a motor drive circuit assembled inside the motor housing, with electrical power to the motor conducted through a pressure connection between the power terminals and power supply lands on a circuit board, and such that there is provided a terminal seat made of insulating resin fitted and fixed to one end of the motor housing, a pair of support pins are held by the terminal seat so as to project in a direction approximately parallel to a surface of the circuit board, respective leads of the motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from the terminal seat, and there are provided a pair of torsion coil springs as the power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, ends projecting outward from the terminal seat as points of contact with the power supply lands, and opposite ends connected to the leads.

[0010] The small-sized motor of the present invention is further constituted such that there is provided a terminal seat fitted and fixed to one end of the motor housing, a pair of support pins are provided so as to project from an end surface of the terminal seat in the same direction, respective leads of the motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from the end surface of the terminal seat, and there are provided torsion coil springs at one end of the motor housing as the pair of power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, ends projecting outward from the terminal seat as points of contact with the power supply lands, and opposite ends connected and fixed to the leads coming out from the end surface of the terminal

seat.

[0011] The small-sized motor of the present invention is further constituted such that it has the torsion coil springs of which the contact point is curved in a U-shape, and the terminal seat on the end of which are check rims that stop the contact points that twist and displace when pressed in contact with the power supply lands.

[0012] The small-sized motor of the present invention is further constituted such that there is provided a terminal seat with a base portion that extends from the portion fitted to one end of the motor housing and matches with the wall of the motor housing, a pair of support pins are provided so as to project in two directions from the sides of the base portion, respective leads of the motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from an end surface of the portion fitted, and there are provided torsion coil springs at the side of the motor housing as the pair of power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, ends projecting outward from the base portion as points of contact with the power supply lands, and opposite ends connected and fixed to the leads coming out from the end surface of the portion fitted.

[0013] The small-sized motor of the present invention is further constituted such that it has the terminal seat with stop rims that hold the axes for connection to which the leads of the motor drive circuit are connected and fixed.

[0014] The small-sized motor of the present invention is further constituted such that it has the terminal seat with a tab fitted and fixed into a cut-out in the surface of the circuit board.

[0015] Further, the small-sized vibrating motor of the present invention is constituted such that it has a motor housing, a rotor shaft that is bearing-supported inside the motor housing, a magnet and coil assembled on the center line of the rotor shaft, a commutator fixed on the center line of the rotor shaft, brush seats made of insulating resin fitted and fixed at one end of the motor housing, a pair of brushes held by the brush seats in rubbing contact with the commutator, a pair of power terminals mounted outside the motor housing, and an eccentric weight mounted on one end of the rotor shaft that projects outside the motor housing, the coil being electrically connected to the commutator, the power terminals being electrically connected to the ends of the brush leads, and the power terminals conducting electricity by means of pressure contact with the power supply lands on the circuit board, and such that there is provided a terminal seat that also serves as the brush seats, a pair of support pins are held by the terminal seat so as to project in a direction approximately parallel to a surface of the circuit board, respective leads are provided so as to come out from the end surface of the terminal seat, and there are provided a pair of torsion coil springs as the power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, ends projecting out-

ward from the terminal seat as points of contact with the power supply lands, and opposite ends connected to the leads of brushes.

[0016] Further, the portable information equipment of the present invention is constituted such that it is equipped with the small-sized vibrating motor as described above.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0017] Figure 1 is a sectional side view illustrating a small-sized vibrating motor according to one embodiment of the small-sized motor of the present invention.

[0018] Figure 2 is an oblique perspective view illustrating the small-sized vibrating motor according to the first embodiment of the present invention.

[0019] Figure 3 is an elevation view illustrating a power terminal end of a torsion coil spring used in the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 2.

[0020] Figure 4 is a side view illustrating a brush used in the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 2.

[0021] Figure 5 is an elevation view illustrating the brush of figure 4.

[0022] Figure 6 is an oblique perspective view with an angle of elevation illustrating a terminal seat, as seen from a power terminal attached side, used in the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 2.

[0023] Figure 7 is an elevation view illustrating the terminal seat of figure 6, as seen from the power terminal attached side.

[0024] Figure 8 is an oblique perspective view with an angle of elevation illustrating the terminal seat of figure 6, as seen from a brush attached side.

[0025] Figure 9 is an elevation view illustrating the terminal seat of figure 8, as seen from the brush attached side.

[0026] Figure 10 is a plan view illustrating the terminal seat with the brushes of figure 4 mounted.

[0027] Figure 11 is an elevation view illustrating the terminal seat with the brushes of figure 4 mounted.

[0028] Figure 12 is a plan view illustrating the terminal seat with the torsion coil springs of figure 3 mounted as power terminals.

[0029] Figure 13 is a bottom view illustrating the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 2.

[0030] Figure 14 is a plan view illustrating the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 2.

[0031] Figure 15 is an elevation view illustrating the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 2 as seen from an eccentric weight end.

[0032] Figure 16 is a side view illustrating a mode of attachment of the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 2 to a circuit board.

[0033] Figure 17 is a side view illustrating another mode of attachment of the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 2 to the circuit board.

[0034] Figure 18 is an elevation view illustrating, from the power terminal side, a mode of attaching the small-

sized vibrating motor of figure 2 by means of a tab on the terminal seat.

[0035] Figure 19 is a side view illustrating the mode of attachment of the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 18.

[0036] Figure 20 is an elevation view illustrating, from the power terminal side, the small-sized vibrating motor when attached to the circuit board of figure 16.

[0037] Figure 21 is an oblique perspective view with an angle of elevation illustrating the small-sized vibrating motor according to the second embodiment of the present invention.

[0038] Figure 22 is a side view illustrating the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 21.

[0039] Figure 23 is a bottom view illustrating the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 21.

[0040] Figure 24 is an elevation view, from the power terminal side, illustrating the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 21.

[0041] Figure 25 is an elevation view, from the eccentric weight side, illustrating the small-sized vibrating motor of figure 21.

[0042] Figure 26 is a side view illustrating a small-sized vibrating motor according to prior art.

[0043] Figure 27 is a side view illustrating attachment to a circuit board of the small-sized vibrating motor according to the prior art.

BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

[0044] The following description is made with reference to figures 1 through 25. Of a small-sized motor for which embodiments are illustrated, a small-sized vibrating motor that rings by means of vibration, as shown in figure 1, is taken as an example. In this embodiment, the most important structural element is the structure of a power terminal, which comprises a torsion coil spring that is pressed against a power supply land on a circuit board.

[0045] A representative example of such new terminal structure is shown in figure 2; this is the first embodiment, which has a pair of power terminals on one end of the motor housing. A second embodiment, shown in figure 21, has a pair of power terminals on the both sides of the motor housing. It is also possible, depending on the structure of the motor, to have one power terminal at one end of the motor housing and the other power terminal at the other end of the motor housing.

[0046] The small-sized vibrating motor has a motor housing 10, a rotor shaft 11, a bearing and bearing housing 12, a magnet 13, a coil 14, a coil holder 15, a commutator 16, a pair of brushes 17a, 17b, a brush holder and terminal seat 18, and an eccentric weight 19, and a pair of power terminals 20a, 20b. They are assembled with the magnet 13 fitted and fixed to the outer periphery of the bearing housing 12 as a stator, and the coil 14 held in place in the coil holder 15 around the axis of the rotor shaft 11 as the rotor.

[0047] As shown in figure 1, the motor housing 10 is made of metal in a cupped shape, with one end closed and the other end open. One end of the motor housing 10 has a projecting tab 10a and a cut-out 10b that fix the motor housing together as a single unit with the bearing housing 12, which is molded of resin material that provides ample lubricity, wear resistance, hardness, and toughness. The rotor shaft 11 is supported within the bearing housing 12.

[0048] The bearing housing 12 has a through hole 12a through which the rotor shaft 11 is inserted, and is formed with a retainer 12b that holds the closed end of the bearing housing 10 by both sides of the cut-out 10b, a sleeve 12c that extends inside the motor housing 10 from the retainer 12b, and an oil sump 12d which is sunken into the inner surface of the through hole 12a. The bearing housing 12 is assembled with the sleeve 12c held in place by a collar 11b that is fitted about the center line of the rotor shaft 11, and with the retainer 12b separated from the eccentric weight 19 by a spacing ring 11c that is interposed between the bearing housing 12 and the eccentric weight 19.

[0049] The magnet 13 is fitted and fixed to the outer periphery of the sleeve 12 so as to form a single piece with the bearing housing 12. This magnet 13 is accommodated within the coil 14, from which it is separated by a magnetic gap. The coil 14 is held by a coil holder 15 that is fitted and fixed about the center line of the rotor shaft 11. The coil holder has on its outer periphery a commutator 16 that is divided into two poles; the commutator 16 is electrically connected to the ends of the cylindrical coil 14.

[0050] The brushes 17a, 17b are held by the brush holder/terminal seat 18 and make rubbing contact with the commutator 16. The brushes 17a, 17b are also electrically connected, as described below, to a pair of power terminals 20a, 20b. This pair of power terminals 20a, 20b are made to contact and apply pressure to the power supply lands on the circuit board, and are electrically conductive; in this way the motor drive circuit is a part of the circuitry.

[0051] The power terminals 20a, 20b, as shown in figure 2, comprise torsion coil springs with helical moment. As shown in figure 3, the power terminal 20a (20b) is bent from a conductive bar with its spiral portion 200 at the center, a U-shaped curve at one end of the spring 201 that forms a point of contact with the power supply land of the circuit board, and the other end 202 that is a contact piece, electrically connected to the end of a lead from the brushes 17a, 17b.

[0052] As shown in figures 4 and 5, the brush 17a (17b) comprises multiple brush ends 170, made of conductive wire, connected to and held in place by a lead end 171, which is made of a conductive sheet material. The brush ends 170 are curved in a U-shape to maintain rubbing contact with spring pressure against the outer periphery of the commutator 16. The pair of brushes 17a, 17b are set parallel to each other, pointing in op-

posite directions so as to make rubbing contact over the center line of the rotor shaft 11.

[0053] The brush seat/terminal seat 18, molded of an insulating resin, is the base in which the power terminals 20a, 20b and brushes 17a, 17b are mounted. The brush seat/terminal seat (hereafter, referred to as "terminal seat") 18 comprises a base portion 18a and a fitting portion 18b, with the structure differing between the side where power terminals 20a, 20b are mounted and the side where the brushes 17a, 17b are mounted.

[0054] To describe these terminals and the structure of the seat on the basis of the first embodiment, the side on which the power terminals 20a, 20b are mounted has, as shown in figures 6 and 7, support pins 21a, 21b, in the form of cylindrical posts, which project outward from the outer side of the base portion 18a and are approximately parallel to the surface of the circuit board (not illustrated). These support pins 21a, 21b can be inserted in the back of the terminal seat 18 after it is molded, or they can be molded as projections in a single piece with the terminal seat 18.

[0055] On the outer surface of the fitting portion 18b are slits 180a, 180b, which are openings that pass through to the side where the brushes 17a, 17b are mounted. The locations of the slits 180a, 180b are offset vertically because, as described above, the pair of brushes 17a, 17b are mounted in opposite directions, one up and one down.

[0056] The positions from which the support pins 21a, 21b project and the positions where the lead ends 171 pass through are separated by a roughly +-shaped partition wall 181 on the outward side of the base portion 18a and the fitting portion 18b of the terminal seat 18.

[0057] On transverse walls 181a, 181b of the partition wall 181 are notches 182a, 182b which communicate between the positions where support pins 21a, 21b project and the positions of the guides for lead ends 171. The transverse walls 181a, 181b are a stop rim in which the straight spring ends 202 (contact pieces) that extend from the spiral portion 200 of the power terminals 20a, 20b are held in place in by the notches 182a, 182b that slant up toward the centerline.

[0058] The +-shaped intersection of walls has check rims 183a, 183b that swell out in an arc. By this means, as the U-shaped spring ends 201 (hereafter, denoted by "contact point (201)" when necessary) of the power terminals 20a, 20b are pressed into contact with the power supply lands of the circuit board, the spring displacement curves easily along the arc surface, and the contact point (201) undergoing spring displacement is stopped by the check rims 183a, 183b, so that the contact points (201) of the power terminals 20a, 20b are pressed firmly in contact with the power supply lands of the circuit board.

[0059] On the side where the brushes 17a, 17b are mounted, as shown in figures 8 and 9, lead holders 184a, 184b project from the inside surface of the terminal seat fitting 18b. The above mentioned slits 180a,

180b, through which the lead ends 171 of the brushes 17a, 17b are inserted, connect through from the lead holders 184a, 184b to the outside surface of the fitting portion 18b.

[0060] On the inside face of the fitting portion 18b there are multiple thickened lips 185a, 185b that surround the lead holders 184a, 184b, the outer periphery of which fit into the opening of the motor housing 10, and there is a check rim 186b that rises from the groove 186a and is concentric with it. Also located on the inside face of the fitting portion 18b is a round depression 187 that receives the end 11a of the rotor shaft 11.

[0061] The terminal seat 18, including the structural parts described above, is molded with the base portion 18 extending out ward beyond the sides of the motor housing 10 and the fitting portion 18b being roughly the same size as the open end of the motor housing 10. Moreover, the support pins 21a, 21b rise from the base portion of the terminal seat 18 so as to be within the height range of the partition wall 181.

[0062] The brushes 17a, 17b are mounted with brush ends 170 pointing opposite directions within the terminal seat 18 holders, as shown in figures 10 and 11, and the lead ends 171 inserted through slits 180a, 180b of the lead holders 184a, 184b so that the lead ends bend after passing through to the outside face of the fitting portion 18b.

[0063] As shown in figure 12, the power terminals 20a, 20b are mounted with central spirals 200 fitting over the axes of the support pins 21a, 21b, ends 201 projecting outward from the base portion 18a of the terminal seat 18 as terminal points (201) that contact the power supply lands, opposite ends 202 that fit in and are held by notches 182a, 182b of the transverse wall 181a, 181b that is a stop rim and soldered to the ends of the leads 171. The power terminals 20a, 20b are positioned with the spring ends 201 positioned inside the arced face of the check rims 183a, 183b.

[0064] As shown in figure 13, the terminal seat 18 is mounted so that the open end of the motor housing 10 is in contact with the receiver rim 186b of the fitting portion 18b and the lead holders 184a, 184b fit inside the motor housing 10, which is fitted to the groove 186a of the terminal fitting 18b. The mounted terminal seat 18, as shown in figure 14, has its base portion 18a located inward of the open end of the motor housing 10. As shown in figure 15, the spring ends 201, which form the contact points of the power terminals 20a, 20b, project downward from the terminal seat 18.

[0065] The small-sized vibrating motor thus constituted is mounted inside the case of the equipment so that, as shown in figure 16, the base portion 18a of the terminal seat 18 is against the surface of the circuit board P and the contact point (201) of the power terminal 20a (20b) is pressed into contact with the power supply land R of the conductive pattern.

[0066] This small-sized vibrating motor can have its motor housing 10 covered by a ring 22 of flexible mate-

rial, as shown in figure 17, or the motor housing 10 can be received in a semicircular support seat made of flexible material that is interposed between the motor housing 10 and the surface of the circuit board P in order to position the motor as a whole above the surface of the circuit board P. In these cases, the motor as a whole is mounted stably on the circuit board P.

[0067] It is also possible, as shown in figure 18, to constitute the terminal seat 18 sit catch rims 188a, 188b on either side and the base portion 18a and partition wall 181 extending downward for the thickness of the circuit board P to form a tab 189. Matching the outer dimensions of this tab, there is a level T-shaped cut-out (indicated by broken lines) in the circuit board P separated from the power lands R, so that the tab 189 fits into the cut-out as shown in figure 19. In this case, the power terminals 20a, 20b are positioned together with the power supply lands R and the motor as a whole can be mounted stably with the ring 22 or the support seat sandwiched firmly in place.

[0068] This tab 189 can have catch claws 189a through 189d located along the lower edge of the tab 189, as shown in figures 18 and 19. Because the tab 189 matches the cut-out in the circuit board P, these catch claws 189a through 189d engage the edge of the cut-out and prevent the motor as a whole, including the terminal seat 18, from coming out of the cut-out in the circuit board P.

[0069] When the power terminals 20a, 20b of the motor are pressed into contact with the power supply lands R of the circuit board P, the torsion moment of the torsion coil springs acts on the support pins 21a, 21b as shown in figure 20, and the contact points (201) of the power terminals 20a, 20b are displaced inward from the base portion 18a of the terminal seat 18. When the motor as a whole reaches its lower limit against the surface of the circuit board P (the mounting height), the spring ends 201 of the power terminals 20a, 20b are stopped by the arced face of the check rims 183a, 183b.

[0070] In this small-sized vibrating motor, the contact points (201) of the power terminals 20a, 20b are displaced inward from the base portion 18a of the terminal seat 18 and pressed into contact with the power supply lands R of the circuit board P, and so the mounting height of the motor as a whole is limited to the height of the terminal base 18a. In particular, it is possible to mount the base portion 18a of the terminal base 18 directly on the surface of the circuit board P with no insulating material in between, and to achieve small size by limiting the mounting height of the motor as a whole.

[0071] With regard to the motor drive circuit, the contact points of the U-shaped spring ends 20a act on the power lands R of the circuit board P with a force to counter the torsion moment from the torsion coil spring. Further, the spring ends 201 that are displaced by contact with the power supply lands R of the circuit board P are checked by the check rims 183a, 183b, and the contact points (201) of the power terminals 20a, 20b are pressed

in contact with the power supply lands of the circuit board P, and so there is steady electrical continuity through the power terminals 20a, 20b.

[0072] Additionally, the other ends 202 of the contact side of the power terminals 20a, 20b that are soldered to the leads 171 from the brushes 17a, 17b are held in place by the stop rims, and so the torsion moment of the torsion coil springs does not act on the contact points 201 of the power terminals 20a, 20b that are soldered to the leads 171 of the brushes 17a, 17b, and so the circuit structure is stable.

[0073] In the second embodiment, the contact structure of the power terminals 20a, 20b and the structure of the end face of the terminal seat 18 differ from those of the first embodiment, as shown in figure 21, but otherwise it is constituted basically the same as the first embodiment. In the description below, common portions of the constitution are omitted because the same coding is used in the figures; only the portions which differ are described.

[0074] In the second embodiment, as shown in figures 22 and 23, the terminal seat 18 has a base portion 18a that is narrower than the outside of the motor housing 10 and that extends in the direction of the length of the motor housing 10, and it has a fitting portion 18b that rises from the base portion 18a. The terminal seat 18 has round support pins 21a, 21b that project outward from both sides of the base portion 18a.

[0075] As in the first implementation, the fitting portion 18b of the terminal seat 18 has leads 171 from brushes 17a, 17b projecting outward, as shown in figures 22 and 24; the brushes 17a, 17b are installed by bending the leads to follow the outer surface of the terminal. The positions through which the leads 171 are guided are divided by the partition wall 181, which has roughly an inverted T-shape on the outer surface of the terminal base 18a.

[0076] The transverse arms 181a, 181b of the partition wall 181 have grooves 182a, 182b that connect to the location where the support pins 21a, 21b project to the positions through which the leads 171 are guided, thus forming a stop rim.

[0077] On the terminal seat 18, the power terminals 20a, 20b have their central coils 200 fitted over the axes of the support pins 21a, 21b and, as shown in figure 25, the spring ends 201 project outward from the base portion 18a to form the points of contact with the power supply lands, while the other spring ends 202 are bent in an L-shape as shown in figure 22, are held in place by grooves 182a, 182b in the transverse walls 181a, 181b as shown in figure 24, and are soldered to the ends of the leads 171.

[0078] In this small-sized vibrating motor, it is possible to make the electrical connection by causing the contact points on the spring ends 201 of the power terminals 20a, 20b to undergo spring displacement and be pressed into contact with the power supply lands of the circuit board on the inward side of the base portion 18a

of the terminal seat 18. In this way the mounting height of the motor as a whole is limited to the height of the terminal base 18a. Again, a force that counters the torsion moment from the torsion coil spring acts on the power supply lands of the circuit board, and can press the contact points on the power terminals 201, 20b into contact with the power supply lands of the circuit board, so that there is steady electrical continuity through the power terminals 20a, 20b.

[0079] The small-sized vibrating motors of the first and second embodiments can be installed as vibrational ring-style alarm devices in pagers, mobile telephones and other portable telecommunications equipment. Because the mounting height of the motor as a whole in such portable telecommunications equipment can be limited to the height of the terminal seat 18, it is possible to reduce the overall size of the equipment, and a sure electrical connection can be made by the pressure contact of the contact points (201) of the power terminals 20a, 20b against the power supply lands of the circuit board, thus constituting equipment of high reliability.

[0080] The embodiments described above were explained on the basis of small-sized vibrating motors with brushes, but the constitution of the circuit by means of power terminals can be applied, in terms of structure, to brushless motors and other small-sized motors, or in terms of application to small-sized motors used for output of a rotary drive.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

[0081] As stated above, according to the small-sized motor of the present invention, there is provided the terminal seat made of insulating resin fitted and fixed to one end of the motor housing, a pair of support pins are held by the terminal seat so as to project in the direction approximately parallel to the surface of the circuit board, the respective leads of the motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from the terminal seat, and there are provided a pair of torsion coil springs as the power terminals that have the central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, the ends projecting outward from the terminal seat as points of contact with the power supply lands, and the opposite ends connected to the leads. Accordingly, the contact points of the power terminals are displaced inward from the terminal seat and are pressed into contact with the power supply lands of the circuit board, enabling electrical connectivity, so that the mounting height of the motor overall can be limited to the height of the terminal base, and the force, countering the torsion moment of the torsion coil spring, acting on the power supply lands of the circuit board applies flexible pressure of the contact points of the power terminals on the power supply lands of the circuit board, to provide steady electrical connectivity.

[0082] Also, there is provided the terminal seat fitted and fixed to one end of the motor housing, a pair of support pins are provided so as to project from the end sur-

face of the terminal seat in the same direction, the respective leads of the motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from the end surface of the terminal seat, and there are provided torsion coil springs at one end of the motor housing as the pair of power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, the ends projecting outward from the terminal seat as points of contact with the power supply lands, and the opposite ends connected and fixed to the leads coming out from the end surface of the terminal seat. Accordingly, the power terminals can be accommodated within the end face of the terminal seat, and the length of the motor as a whole can be kept short.

[0083] Also, it has the torsion coil springs of which the contact point is curved in the U-shape, and the terminal seat on the end of which are check rims that stop the contact points that twist and displace when pressed in contact with the power supply lands. Accordingly, a force countering the torsion moment of the torsion coil springs can act on the power supply lands of the circuit board, which can steadily apply flexible pressure of the contact points of the power terminals on the power supply lands of the circuit board.

[0084] Also, there is provided the terminal seat with the base portion that extends from the portion fitted to one end of the motor housing and matches with the wall of the motor housing, a pair of support pins are provided so as to project in two directions from the sides of the base portion, the respective leads of the motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from the end surface of the portion fitted, and there are provided the torsion coil springs at the side of the motor housing as the pair of power terminals that have the central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, the ends projecting outward from the base portion as points of contact with the power supply lands, and the opposite ends connected and fixed to the leads coming out from the end surface of the portion fitted. Accordingly, the power terminals can be accommodated within the two sides of the terminal seat, and the length of the motor as a whole can be kept short.

[0085] Also, it has the terminal seat with stop rims that hold the axes for connection to which the leads of the motor drive circuit are connected and fixed, so that the connecting point of the power terminals which are soldered with the leads of the motor drive circuit are held by the stop rims. Accordingly, the torsion moment of the torsion coil springs does not act on the contact points of the power terminals, and the constitution of the circuit is stable.

[0086] Also, it has the terminal seat with the tab fitted and fixed into the cut-out in the surface of the circuit board. Accordingly, the motor as a whole can be mounted on the surface of the circuit board by aligning the power terminals with the power supply lands.

[0087] Also, there is provided the terminal seat that also serves as the brush seats, a pair of support pins are held by the terminal seat so as to project in the di-

rection approximately parallel to the surface of the circuit board, the respective leads are provided so as to come out from the end surface of the terminal seat, and there are provided a pair of torsion coil springs as the power terminals that have the central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, the ends projecting outward from the terminal seat as points of contact with the power supply lands, and the opposite ends connected to the leads of brushes. Accordingly, since it is possible to make the electrical connection by causing the contact points of the power terminals to undergo spring displacement and be pressed into contact with the power supply lands of the circuit board on the inward side of the terminal seat, the mounting height of the motor as a whole can be limited to the height of the terminal base. Further, since the force, countering the torsion moment of the torsion coil spring, acting on the power supply lands of the circuit board applies flexible pressure of the contact points of the power terminals on the power supply lands of the circuit board, the steady electrical connectivity can be provided.

[0088] Also, according to the portable information equipment of the present invention, since the above-described small-sized vibrating motor is mounted therein, it can allow the equipment as a whole to be made smaller and allows a sure electrical connection to be made by the pressure contact of the contact points of the power terminals against the power supply lands of the circuit board, thus constituting equipment of high reliability.

Claims

1. A small-sized motor, in which there is provided a pair of power terminals external to a motor housing, the power terminals being electrically connected to leads from a motor drive circuit assembled inside the motor housing, with electrical power to the motor conducted through a pressure connection between the power terminals and power supply lands on a circuit board, **characterized in that** there is provided a terminal seat made of insulating resin fitted and fixed to one end of the motor housing, a pair of support pins are held by the terminal seat so as to project in a direction approximately parallel to a surface of the circuit board, respective leads of the motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from the terminal seat, and there are provided a pair of torsion coil springs as the power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, ends projecting outward from the terminal seat as points of contact with the power supply lands, and opposite ends connected to the leads.
2. The small-sized motor as described in claim 1, **characterized in that** there is provided a terminal seat fitted and fixed to one end of the motor housing,

a pair of support pins are provided so as to project from an end surface of the terminal seat in the same direction, respective leads of the motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from the end surface of the terminal seat, and there are provided torsion coil springs at one end of the motor housing as the pair of power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, ends projecting outward from the terminal seat as points of contact with the power supply lands, and opposite ends connected and fixed to the leads coming out from the end surface of the terminal seat.

3. The small-sized motor as described in claim 2, **characterized by** having the torsion coil springs of which the contact point is curved in a U-shape, and the terminal seat on the end of which are check rims that stop the contact points that twist and displace when pressed in contact with the power supply lands.
4. The small-sized motor as described in claim 1, **characterized in that** there is provided a terminal seat with a base portion that extends from the portion fitted to one end of the motor housing and matches with the wall of the motor housing, a pair of support pins are provided so as to project in two directions from the sides of the base portion, respective leads of the motor drive circuit are provided so as to come out from an end surface of the portion fitted, and there are provided torsion coil springs at the side of the motor housing as the pair of power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, ends projecting outward from the base portion as points of contact with the power supply lands, and opposite ends connected and fixed to the leads coming out from the end surface of the portion fitted.
5. The small-sized motor as described in any of claims 1 through 4, **characterized by** having the terminal seat with stop rims that hold the axes for connection to which the leads of the motor drive circuit are connected and fixed.
6. The small-sized motor as described in any of claims 1 through 5, **characterized by** having the terminal seat with a tab fitted and fixed into a cut-out in the surface of the circuit board.
7. A small-sized vibrating motor including a motor housing, a rotor shaft that is bearing-supported inside the motor housing, a magnet and coil assembled on the center line of the rotor shaft, a commutator fixed on the center line of the rotor shaft, brush seats made of insulating resin fitted and fixed at one end of the motor housing, a pair of brushes held by the brush seats in rubbing contact with the commu-

tator, a pair of power terminals mounted outside the motor housing, and an eccentric weight mounted on one end of the rotor shaft that projects outside the motor housing, the coil being electrically connected to the commutator, the power terminals being electrically connected to the ends of the brush leads, and the power terminals conducting electricity by means of pressure contact with the power supply lands on the circuit board, **characterized in that** there is provided a terminal seat that also serves as the brush seats, a pair of support pins are held by the terminal seat so as to project in a direction approximately parallel to a surface of the circuit board, respective leads are provided so as to come out from the end surface of the terminal seat, and there are provided a pair of torsion coil springs as the power terminals that have central spirals fitting over the axes of the support pins, ends projecting outward from the terminal seat as points of contact with the power supply lands, and opposite ends connected to the leads of brushes.

8. A portable information equipment, **characterized by** being equipped with the small-sized vibrating motor as described in claim 7.

FIG. 1

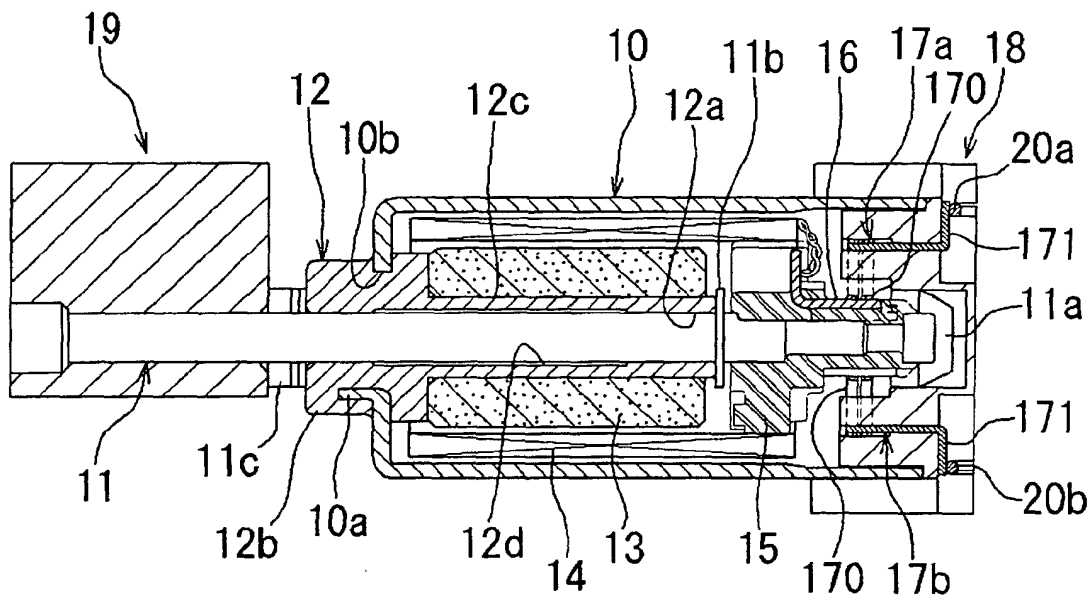


FIG. 2

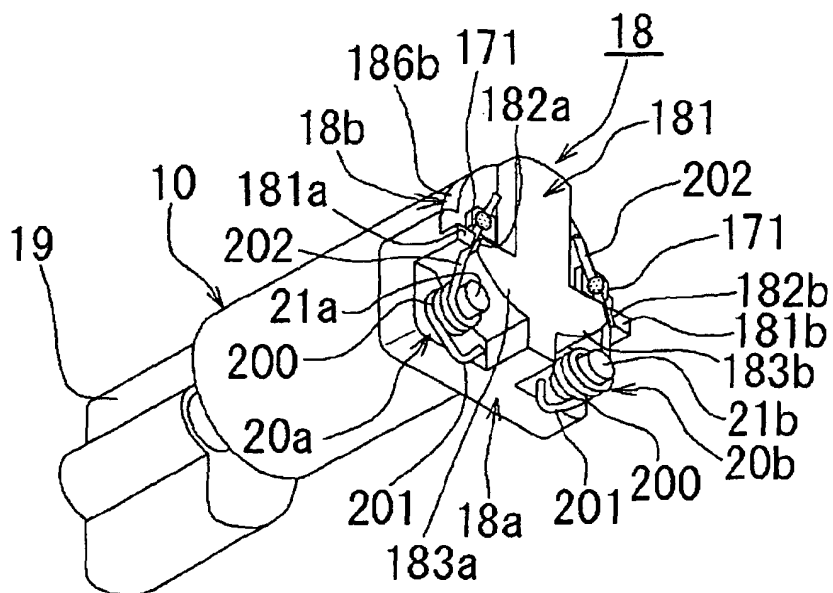


FIG. 3

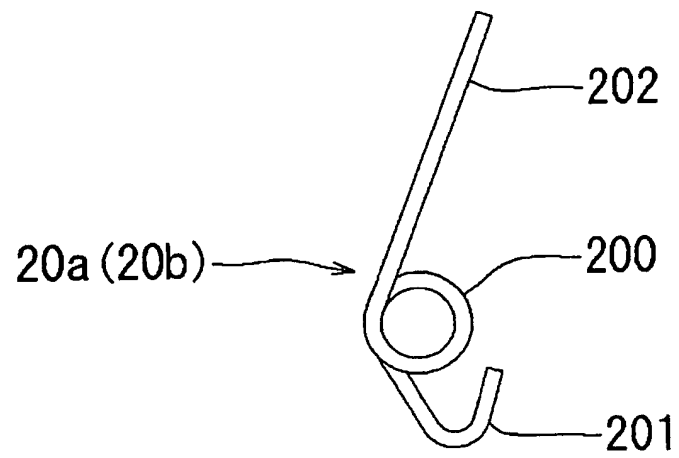


FIG. 4

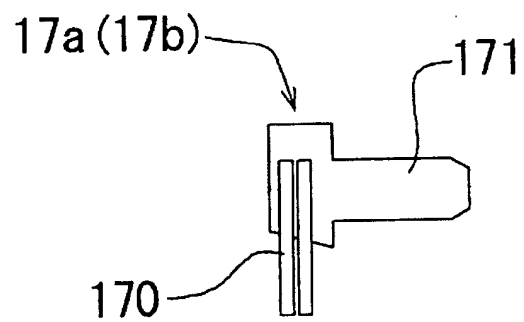


FIG. 5

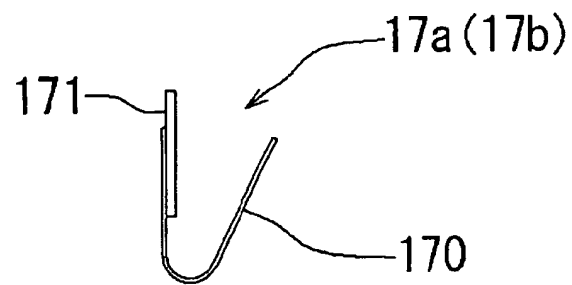


FIG. 6

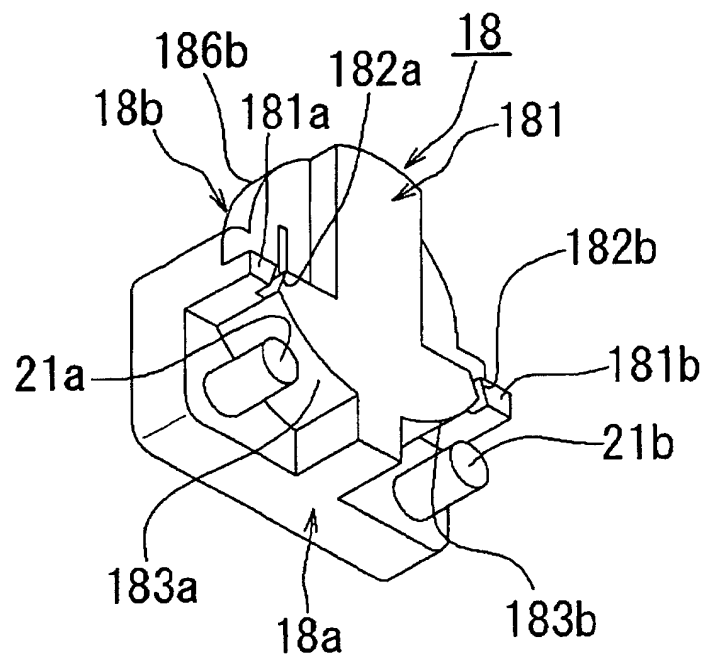


FIG. 7

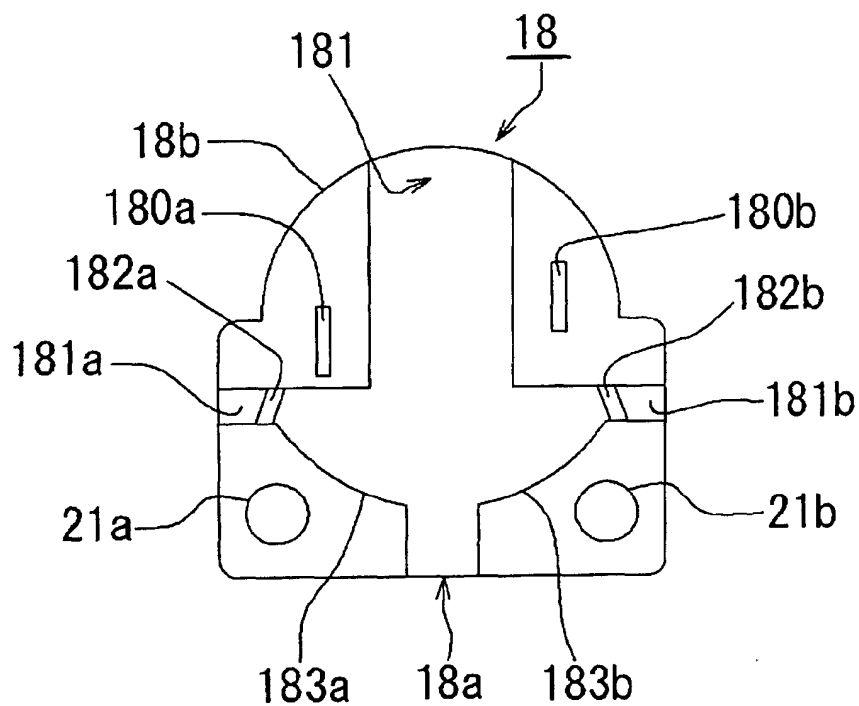


FIG. 8

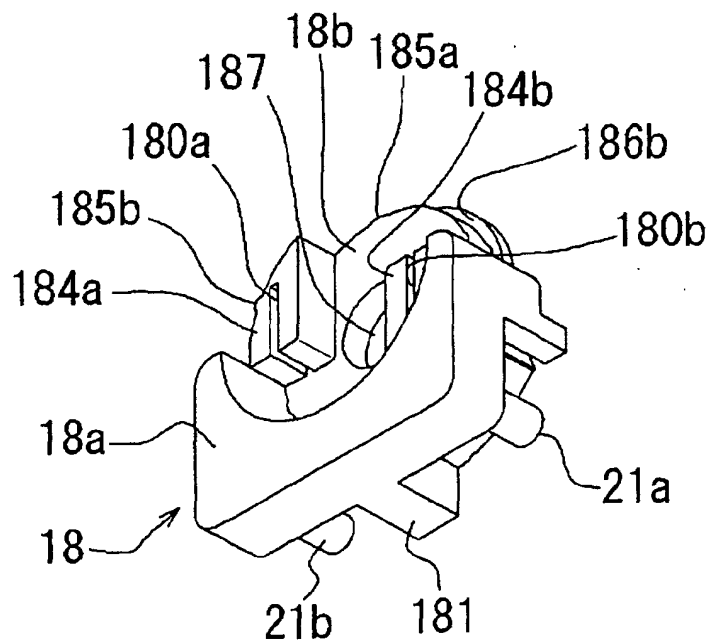


FIG. 9

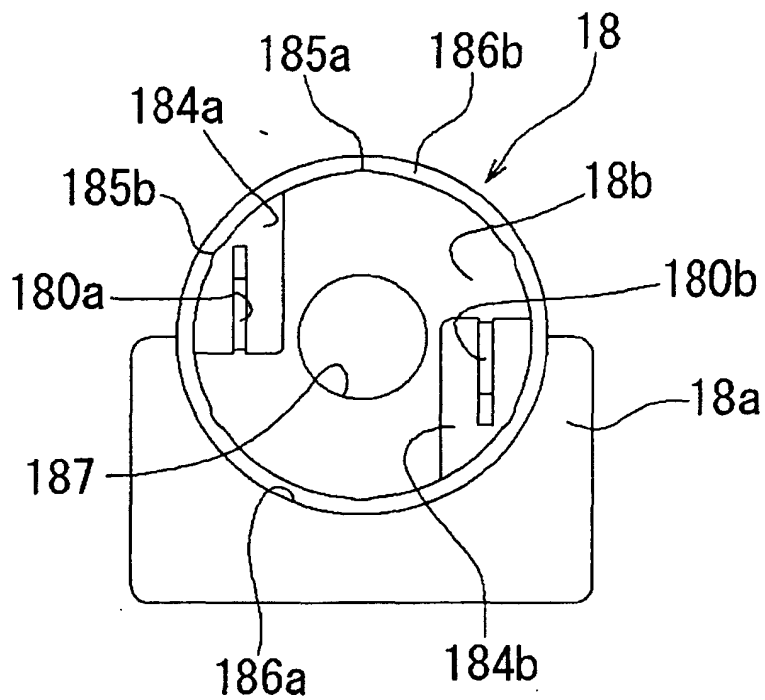


FIG. 10

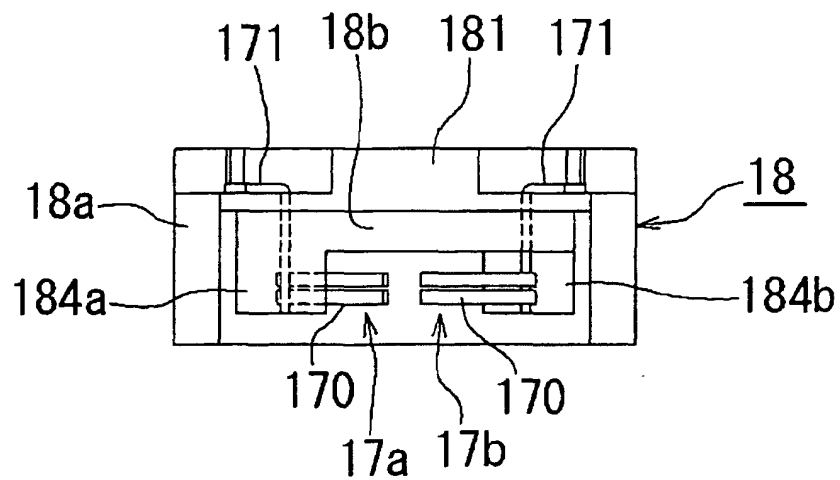


FIG. 11

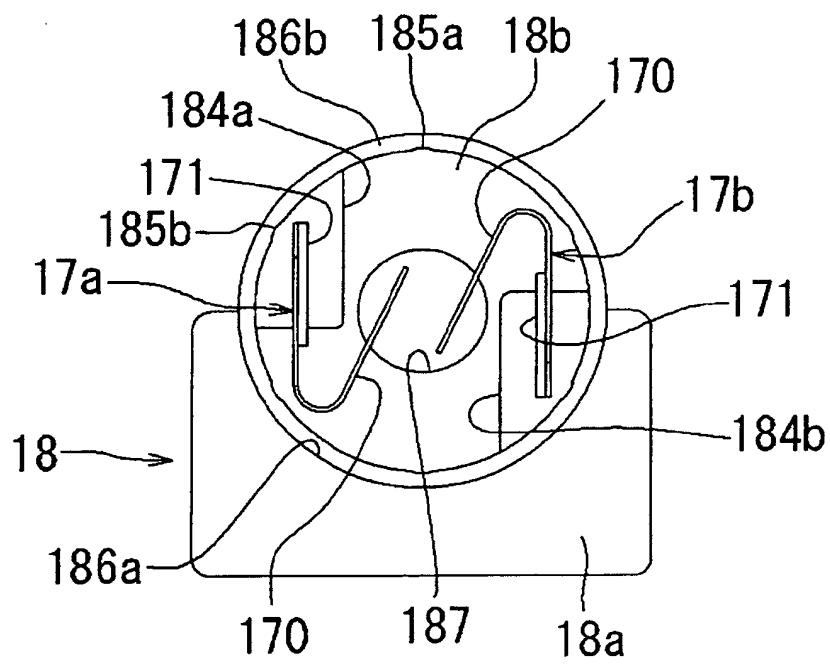


FIG. 12

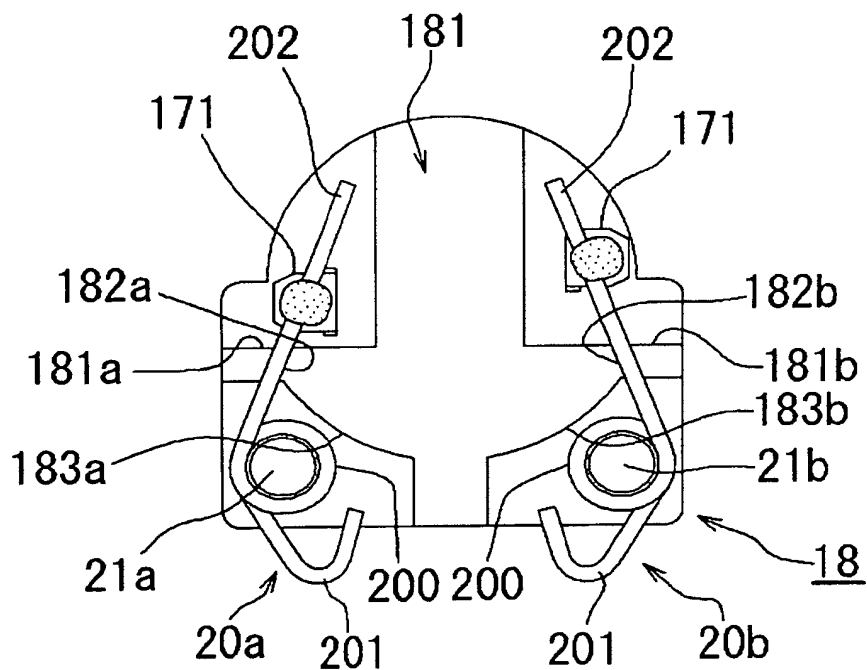


FIG. 13

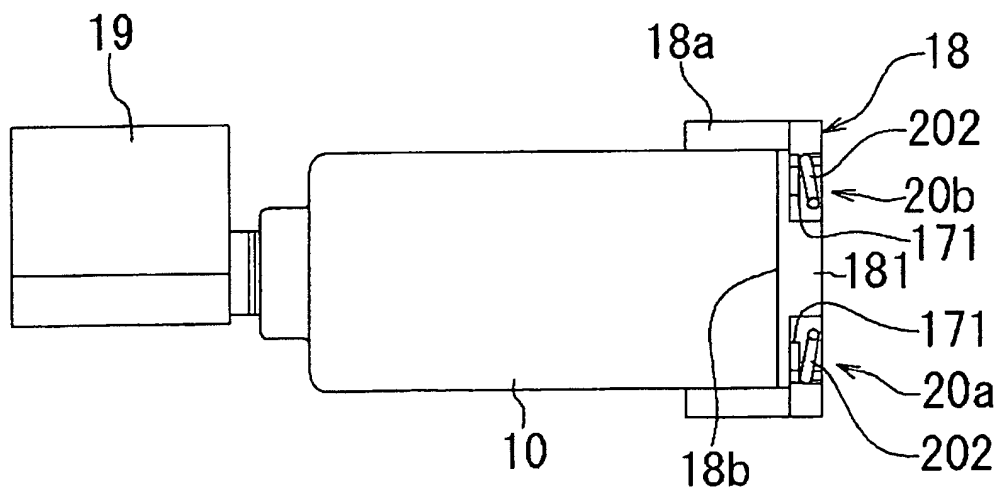


FIG. 14

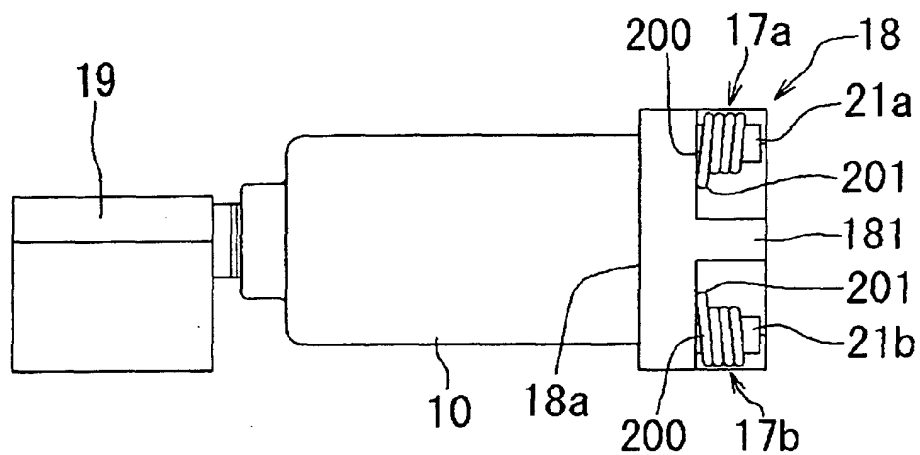


FIG. 15

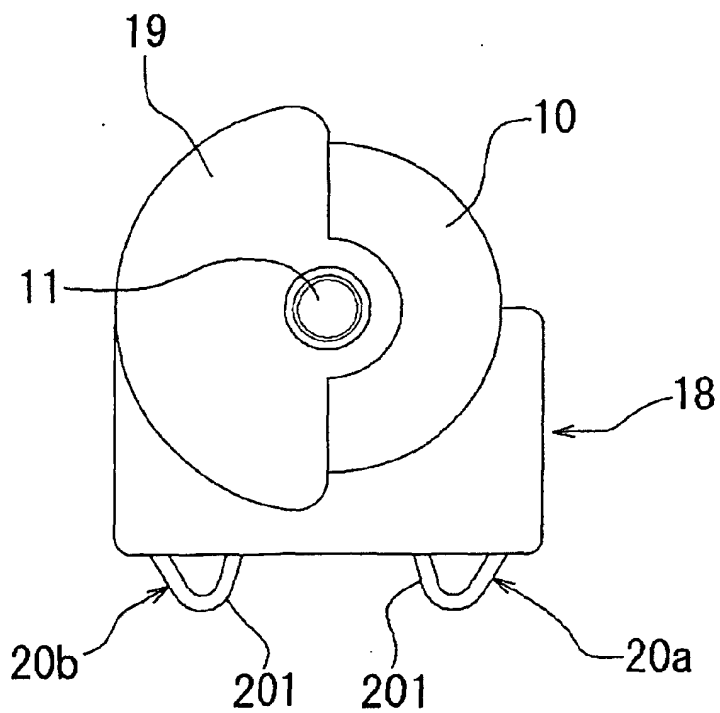


FIG. 16

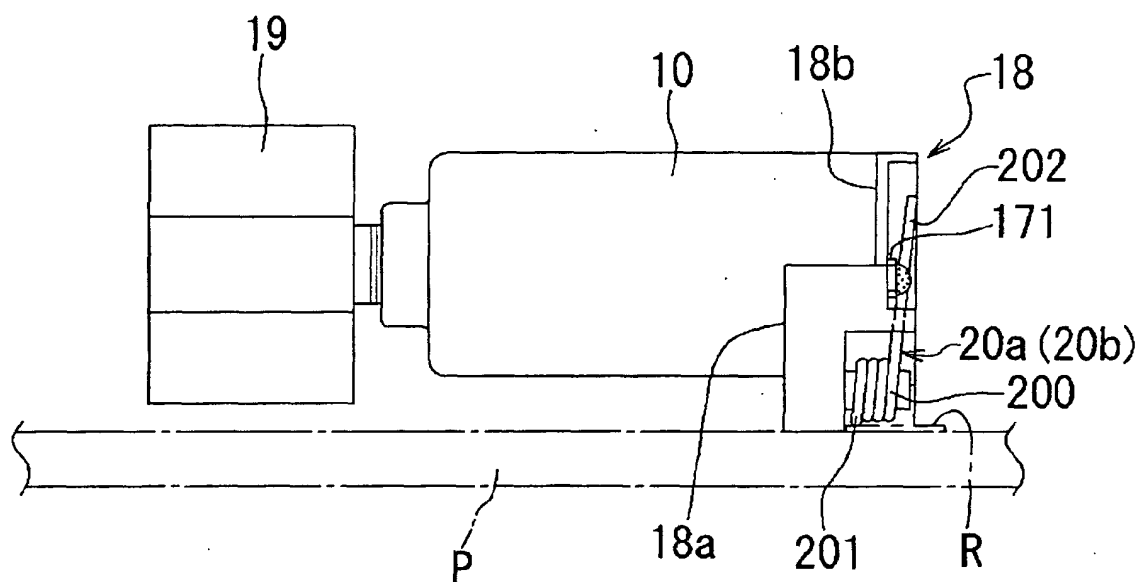


FIG. 17

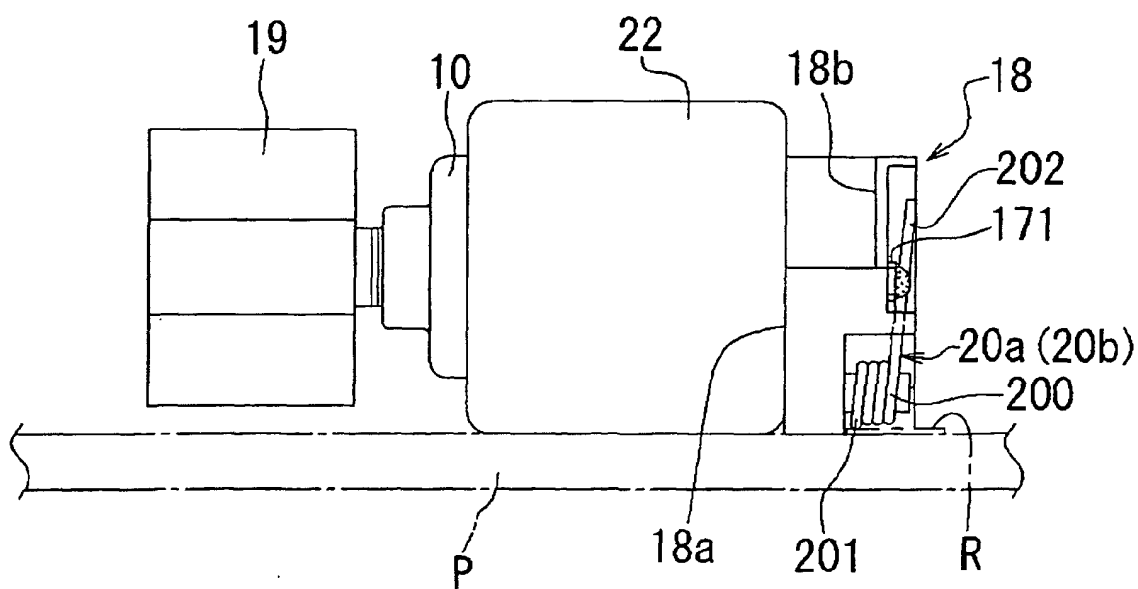


FIG. 18

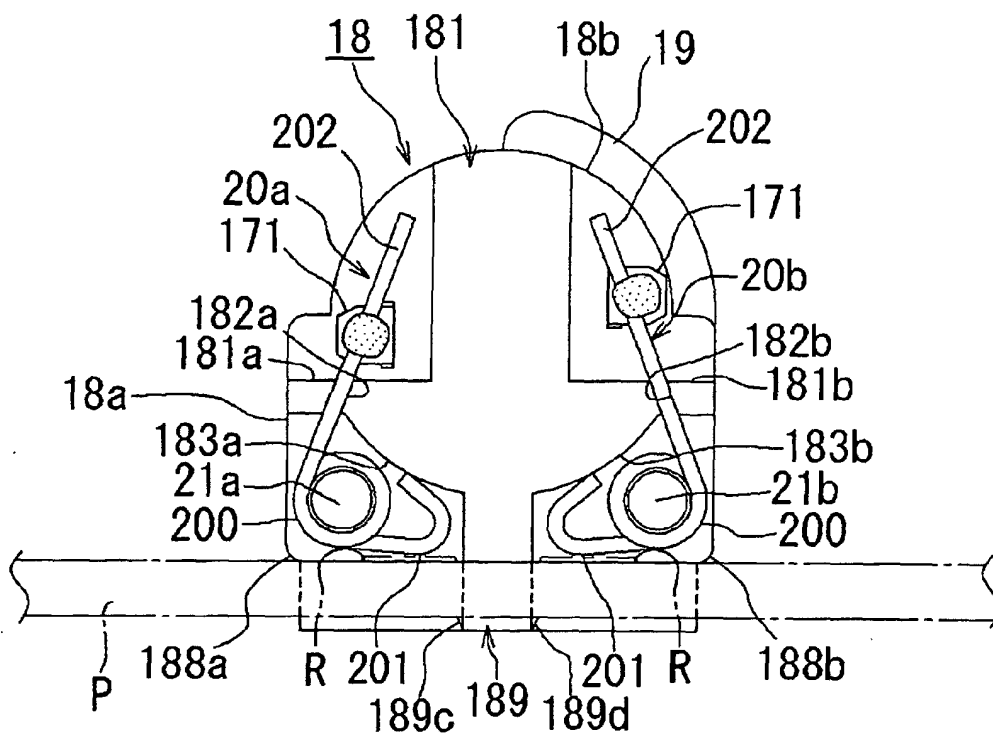


FIG. 19

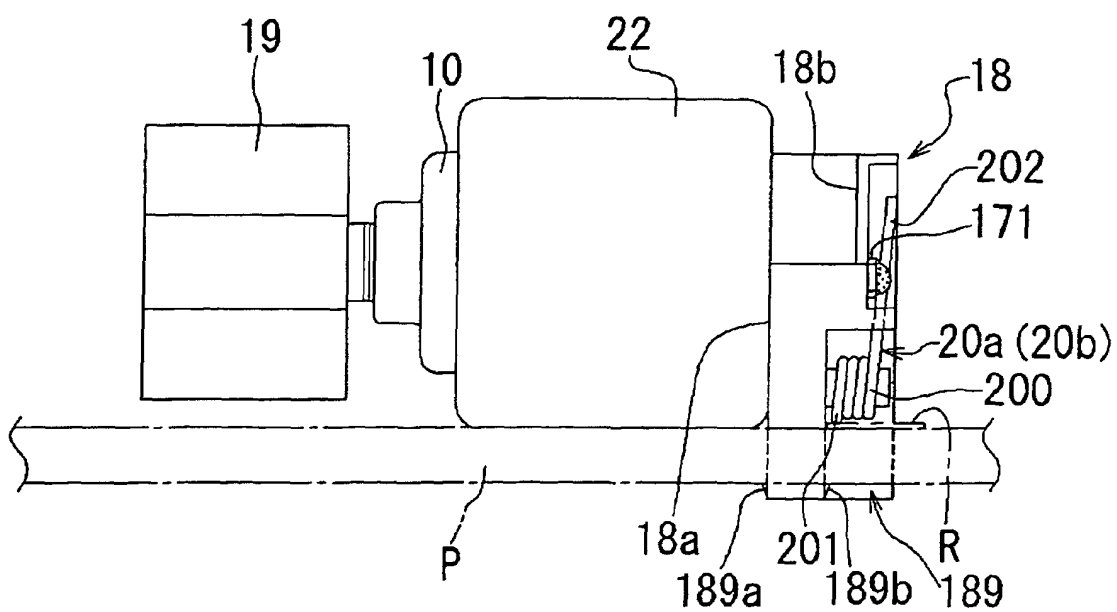


FIG. 20

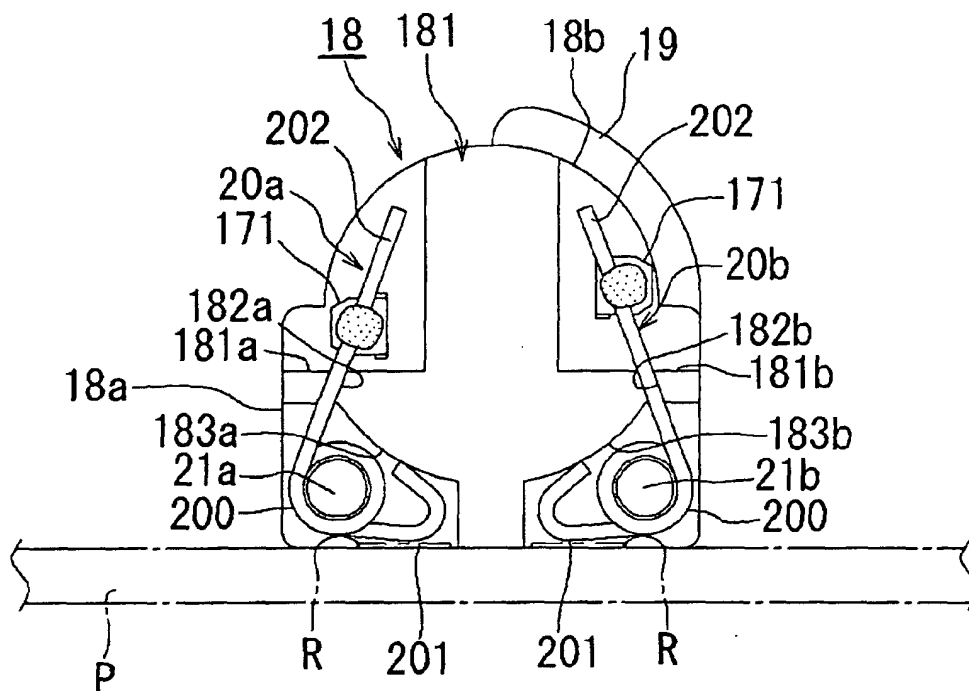


FIG. 21

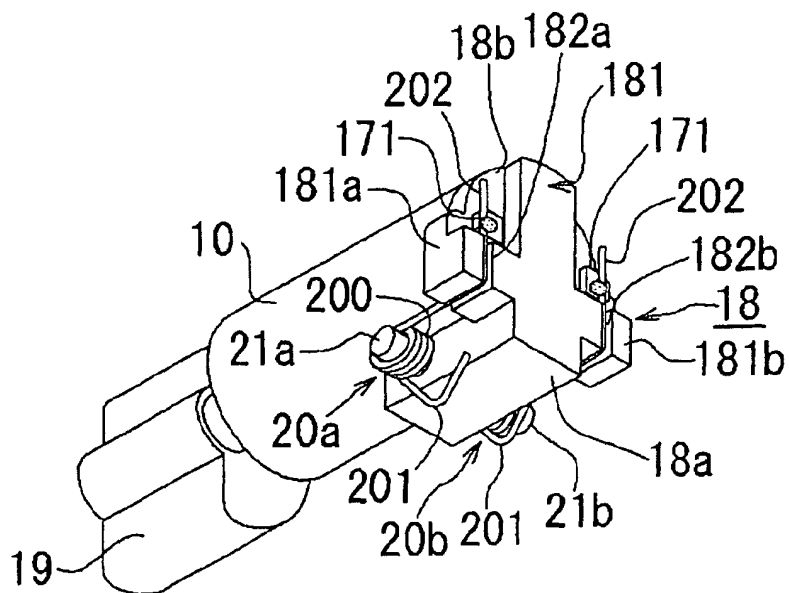


FIG. 22

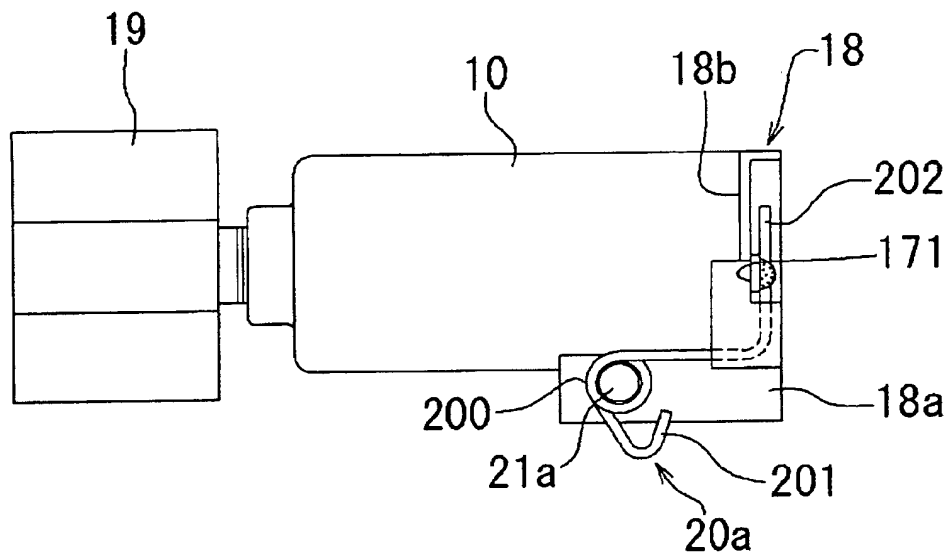


FIG. 23

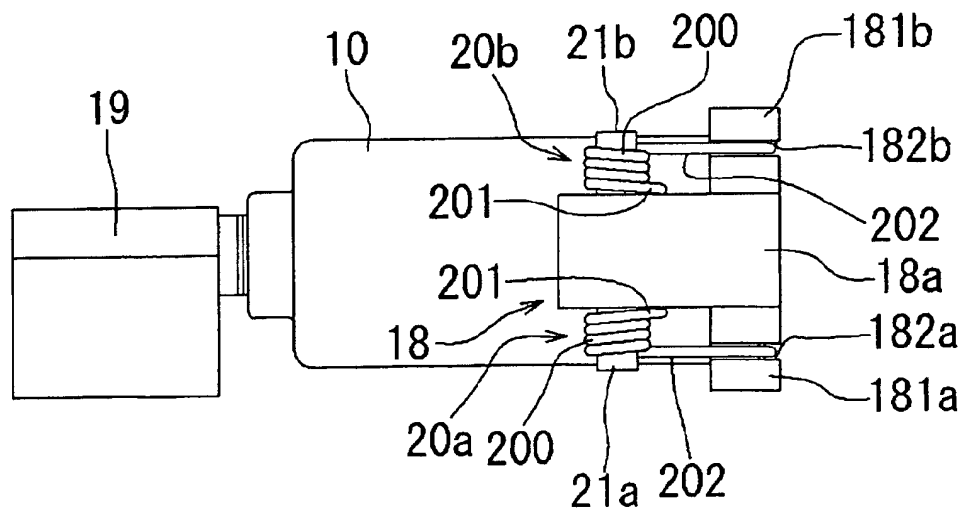


FIG. 24

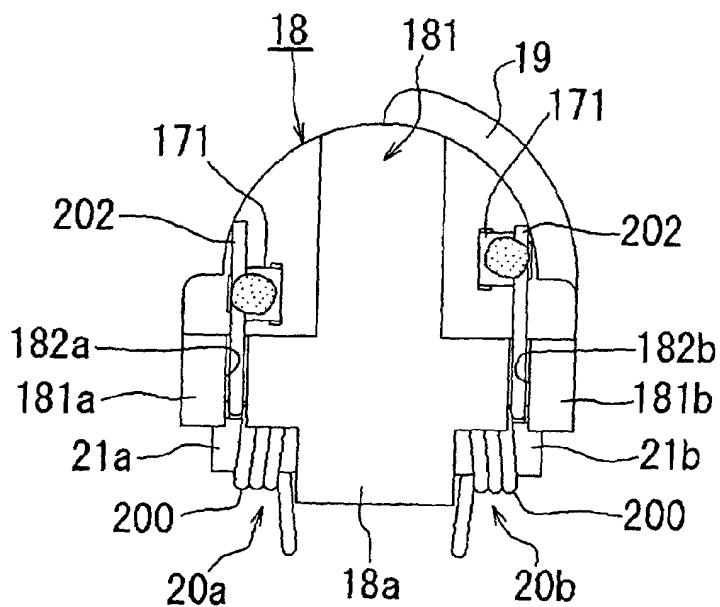


FIG. 25

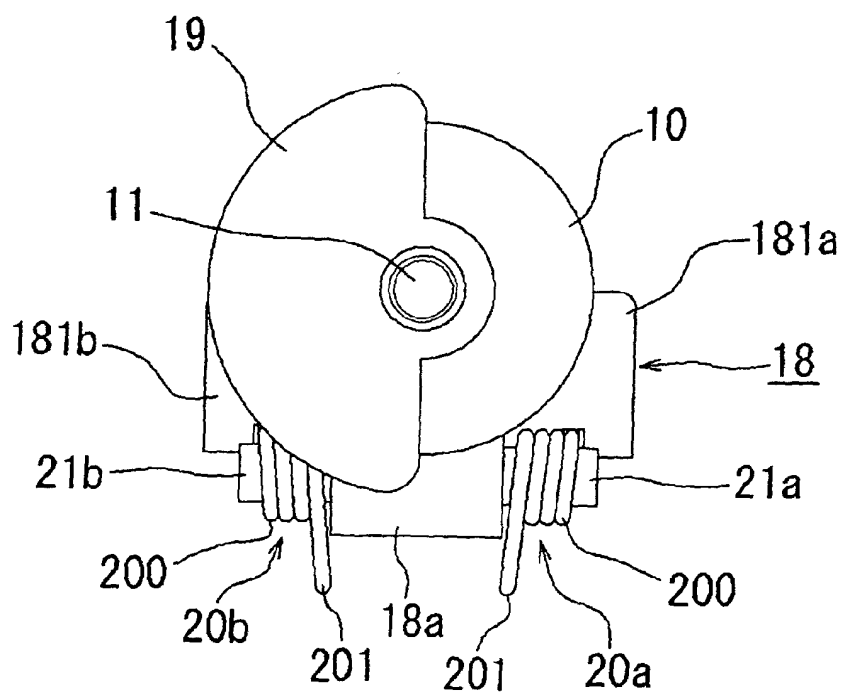


FIG. 26

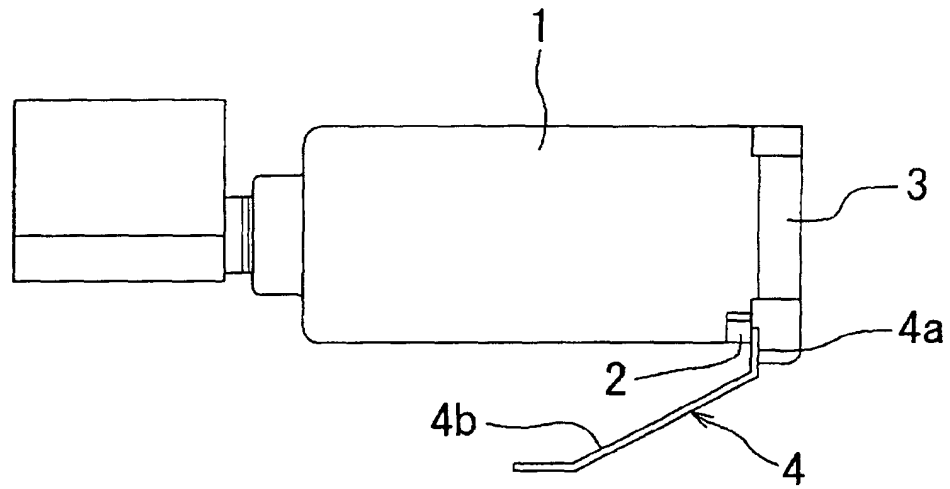
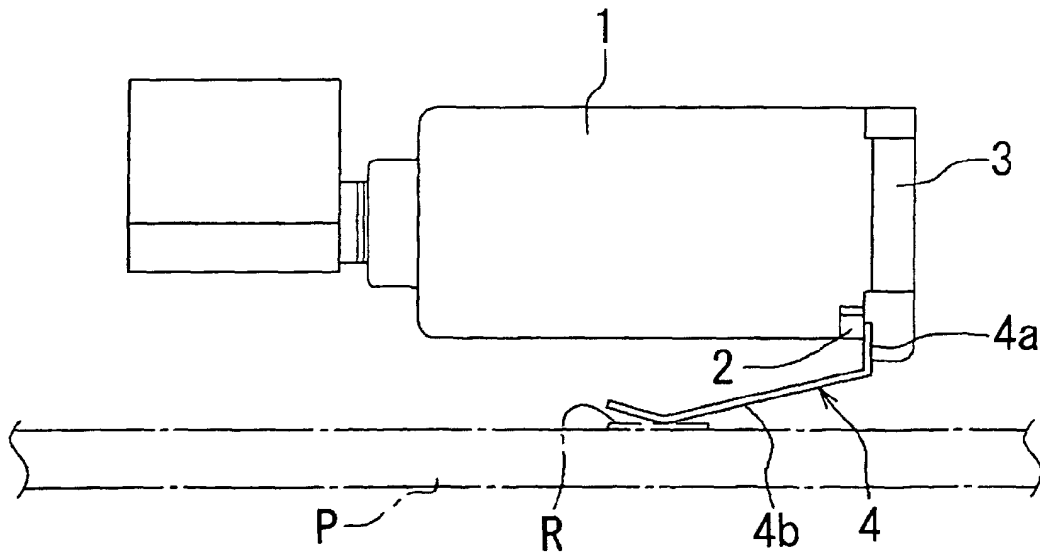


FIG. 27



Description of Reference Numerals

1 0	Motor housing
1 1	Rotor shaft
1 2	Bearing housing
1 3	Magnet
1 4	Coil
1 5	Coil holder
1 6	Commutator
1 7 a , 1 7 b	Brushes
1 7 1	Lead
1 8	Terminal seat
1 8 a	Terminal seat base portion
1 8 b	Terminal seat fitting portion
1 8 1 a , 1 8 1 b	Terminal seat transverse walls
1 8 3 a , 1 8 3 b	Terminal seat check rims
1 8 9	Terminal seat tab
1 9	Eccentric weight
2 0 a , 2 0 b	Power terminals (torsion coil springs)
2 0 0	Power terminal spiral portion

2 0 1	Power terminal one spring end (contact point)
2 0 2	Power terminal other spring end
2 1 a , 2 1 b	Support pins
P	Circuit board
R	Power supply land

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP02/12734

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl.⁷ H02K5/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
Int.Cl.⁷ H02K5/22Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1926-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2003
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2003 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2003

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P, X	JP 2002-44904 A (Mabuchi Motor Co., Ltd.), 08 February, 2002 (08.02.02), Par. Nos. [0015], [0016]; Figs. 1 to 3 & CN 1334633 A	1-5, 7, 8
A	JP 2000-299961 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 24 October, 2000 (24.10.00), All pages (Family: none)	1-8
A	JP 2001-238411 A (Moric Co., Ltd.), 31 August, 2001 (31.08.01), Par. No. [0021]; Figs. 3 to 8 (Family: none)	1-8

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
 ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
06 March, 2003 (06.03.03)Date of mailing of the international search report
25 March, 2003 (25.03.03)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP02/12734

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 10-117460 A (Hoshiden Kabushiki Kaisha), 06 May, 1998 (06.05.98), Figs. 2, 3 (Family: none)	1-8
A	JP 11-136327 A (C. I. Kasei Co., Ltd.), 21 May, 1999 (21.05.99), Fig. 1 (Family: none)	1-8

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1998)